

Washington, DC - Rep. Linda Sánchez (D-CA) announced today that she has secured initial support for over \$3 million in federal funding for projects across her Southern California district, including programs in the Whittier area. Most of these investments were included in the Omnibus appropriations bill passed by the House of Representatives today. The bill will now proceed to the Senate then be signed by the President to become law.

“This is great news for our community,” said Congresswoman Sánchez. “Students who are homeless or who have an incarcerated parent are the most vulnerable to being left behind. I am proud to help the East Whittier School District establish this program, which I believe will become a model for improving student retention and performance throughout the state.”

These investments include:

*** \$450,000 for Bus Shelters for City of Whittier:** Congresswoman Sánchez secured federal funding to purchase and install ten bus shelters with solar lighting in the City of Whittier. The addition of these bus shelters will facilitate greater use of public transit.

*** \$500,000 for the City of Whittier Emergency Operations Center:** Funding will allow the City to construct a new facility that will house personnel, communications, and equipment to ensure continuity of operations in the event of a disaster, such as a wildfire or earthquake. The City’s current Emergency Operations Center is inadequate to serve the City’s needs, and this valuable investment will make the community safer and more secure.

*** \$225,000 for East Whittier School District - Project Action Dropout Prevention Program:** Funding will go toward the Project Action Drop Out Prevention Program to provide homeless children and the children of incarcerated parents with the out-of-classroom support they need to succeed inside the classroom. The funding will be used to create new staff positions to work to help identify resources for homeless children, provide services to meet their needs, and coordinate with an already existing mentoring program to give students of incarcerated parents access to mentoring programs.

“It is a priority of mine to bring home federal funding that will invest in our own communities, especially for the education of our youth” said Congresswoman Linda Sánchez. “During these tough economic times, smart investments in our children and workforce will yield great rewards for local families.”

###